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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/890,432	07/30/2001	Gerhard Spitz	112740-271	1689

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EXAMINER

SHAH, NILESH R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2195

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/890,432

Applicant(s)

SPITZ, GERHARD

Examiner

Nilesh Shah

Art Unit

2195

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 7-12 are presented for examination.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. Claims 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kieckhafer et al (4,805,107) (hereinafter Kieckhafer) in view of William (5,418,956).
3. As per claim 7, Kieckhafer teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a method for access to at least one variable in a preemptively multitasking-controlled processor system, the method comprising the steps of:  
providing a task scheduler for processing tasks (abstract; col. 52 lines 1-30);  
providing an access status memory (col. 10 lines 50-67);  
inputting, via an accessing task, a blocking information item into the access status memory before the access to the at least one variable(col. 6 lines 40-50; col. 16 lines 10-28);  
checking, via the task scheduler and when there is a task change intended by the task scheduler during the access, the access status memory for an input blocking information item(col. 2 lines 55-63; col. 10 lines 50-55; col. 90 lines 1-8;  
delaying the intended task change via the task scheduler when the blocking information item is input (col. 24 lines 44-55; col. 66 lines 24-57);

inputting a task change information item using the input blocking information item and inputting, via the currently accessing task, a release information item into the access status memory at the end of the access (col. 2 lines 55-63 ;col. 24 lines 44-55; col. 66 lines 24-57); and

initiating the intended task change, via the currently accessing task, when the task change information item is input (col. 6 lines 40-50; col. 16 lines 10-28).

4. Kieckhafer does not specifically teach the use of secure access.

William teaches the use of a secure access system (col. 3 lines 5-12).

5. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of William and Kieckhafer at the time the invention was made because William's secure system would improve Kieckhafer's system by making sure all communications are secure thus making the entire system protected from outside intruders.

6. As per claim 8, Kieckhafer teaches a method further comprising the steps of:  
activating a time monitoring system having a time period of at least a duration of the secure access; and terminating the secure access the expiration of the defined time period (col. 2 lines 55-63 ;col. 24 lines 44-55; col. 66 lines 24-57).

7. As per claim 9, Kieckhafer teaches a method further comprising the steps of:

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checking contents of the access status memory at the end of the secure access and before the inputting of the release information item (abstract; col. 6 lines 40-50; col. 16 lines 10-28); and

deactivating the activated time monitoring system when the task change information item is present and transmitting a technical operating information item which initiates the intended task change to the task scheduler by the currently accessing task (col. 2 lines 55-63 ;col. 24 lines 44-55; col. 66 lines 24-57).

8. As per claim 10, Kieckhafer teaches a method further comprising the steps of:  
overwriting contents of the access status memory by the inputting of at least one of the blocking information item, the task change information item and the release information item into the access status memory (col. 24 lines 44-55; col. 66 lines 24-57).
9. As per claim 11, Kieckhafer teaches a method further comprising the steps of:  
forming the blocking information item, the task change information item and the release information item by at least one single-bit information item (abstract; col. 52 lines 1-30; col. 2 lines 55-63 ;col. 24 lines 44-55; col. 66 lines 24-57).
10. As per claim 12, Kieckhafer teaches a method further comprising the steps of:
11. representing a variable by one of a variable of a software module which is stored in a memory unit and a hardware-related setting information item which is stored in a hardware register (col. 6 lines 40-50; col. 16 lines 10-28).

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***Conclusion***

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nilesh Shah whose telephone number is (571)272-3771. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (571)272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nilesh Shah  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2195

NS

April 12, 2005

  
MAJID BANANKHAH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER